

# INEQUALITIES

Ozgur Kircak

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>MEANS INEQUALITIES</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	EXERCISES . . . . .	7
<b>2</b>	<b>CAUCHY-SCHWARZ INEQUALITY</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1	EXERCISES . . . . .	13
<b>3</b>	<b>REARRANGEMENT INEQUALITY</b>	<b>17</b>
3.1	EXERCISES . . . . .	18
<b>4</b>	<b>CHEBYSHEV'S INEQUALITY</b>	<b>21</b>
4.1	EXERCISES . . . . .	22
<b>5</b>	<b>MIXED PROBLEMS</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>PROBLEMS FROM OLYMPIADS</b>	<b>29</b>
6.1	Years 1996 ~ 2000 . . . . .	36
6.2	Years 1990 ~ 1995 . . . . .	42
6.3	Supplementary Problems . . . . .	44



# Chapter 1

## MEANS INEQUALITIES

**Definition 1** Arithmetic mean of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  is  $AM = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}$

**Definition 2** Geometric mean of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  is  $GM = \sqrt[n]{a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n}$

**Definition 3** Harmonic mean of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  is  $HM = \frac{n}{\frac{1}{a_1} + \frac{1}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{a_n}}$

**Definition 4** Quadratic mean of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  is  $QM = \sqrt{\frac{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \dots + a_n^2}{n}}$

**Definition 5** The  $r$ th power mean of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  is  $P_r = \sqrt[r]{\frac{a_1^r + a_2^r + \dots + a_n^r}{n}}$

**Theorem 1** Let  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}_+$

$$QM(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \geq AM(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \geq GM(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \geq HM(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$$

and equality holds if and only if  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n$ .

**Theorem 2** Let  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}_+$  then  $P_{r_1} \geq P_{r_2}$  whenever  $r_1 \geq r_2$ .

**Example 1** Let  $a, b, c > 0$ , prove that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca$ .

Solution: By AM-GM inequality we have  $a^2 + b^2 \geq 2ab$ . Similarly,  $b^2 + c^2 \geq 2bc$  and  $a^2 + c^2 \geq 2ac$ . Adding these three inequalities we get

$$2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \geq 2(ab + bc + ca) \implies a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca.$$

Let's link this result since we will use it in many problems.

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca \tag{1.1}$$

**Example 2** Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then  $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq 3$ .

Solution: By AM-GM we have  $\frac{\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}}{3} \geq \sqrt[3]{\frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{b}{c} \cdot \frac{c}{a}} = 1$ . So,  $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq 3$ .

**Example 3** Prove that for any positive real numbers  $a, b, c$  we have

$$\frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} \geq \frac{9}{2(a+b+c)}.$$

Solution: By AM-HM inequality, we have

$$\frac{\frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a}}{3} \geq \frac{3}{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{a+b}} + \frac{1}{\frac{1}{b+c}} + \frac{1}{\frac{1}{c+a}}} = \frac{3}{2(a+b+c)}.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} \geq \frac{9}{2(a+b+c)}.$$

**Example 4** Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  then

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{3}{2}. \quad (1.2)$$

Solution: By the previous example we have,

$$\begin{aligned} (a+b+c) \left[ \frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} \right] &\geq \frac{9}{2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{a+b+c}{a+b} + \frac{a+b+c}{b+c} + \frac{a+b+c}{c+a} &\geq \frac{9}{2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{a}{b+c} + 1 + \frac{a}{b+c} + 1 + \frac{a}{b+c} + 1 &\geq \frac{9}{2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{a}{b+c} &\geq \frac{3}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

This inequality is called Nesbitt's inequality.

**Example 5** Prove that  $\sqrt[3]{3 + \sqrt[3]{3}} + \sqrt[3]{3 - \sqrt[3]{3}} < 2\sqrt[3]{3}$ .

Solution: By  $AM - P_3$  we have,

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{3 + \sqrt[3]{3}} + \sqrt[3]{3 - \sqrt[3]{3}}}{2} \leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{(\sqrt[3]{3 + \sqrt[3]{3}})^3 + (\sqrt[3]{3 - \sqrt[3]{3}})^3}{2}} = \sqrt[3]{3}.$$

Since the terms are not equal we have strict inequality.

So,  $\sqrt[3]{3 + \sqrt[3]{3}} + \sqrt[3]{3 - \sqrt[3]{3}} < 2\sqrt[3]{3}$ .

## 1.1 EXERCISES

1. Prove that for any positive real numbers  $a, b, c$  we have

$$(a+2)(b+3)(c+6) \geq 48\sqrt{abc}.$$

2. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then  $(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) \geq 8abc$ .

3. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{ab}{c^2} + \frac{bc}{a^2} + \frac{ca}{b^2} \geq 3.$$

4. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{ab}{c} + \frac{bc}{a} + \frac{ca}{b} \geq a + b + c.$$

5. Prove that if  $x, y > 0$  then,

$$\frac{x}{x^4 + y^2} + \frac{y}{x^2 + y^4} \leq \frac{1}{xy}.$$

6. Prove that  $(a+b-c)(b+c-a)(c+a-b) \leq abc$  if

- (a)  $a, b, c$  are sides of a triangle
- (b)  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers.

7. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$ , then

$$\frac{1}{1+ab} + \frac{1}{1+bc} + \frac{1}{1+ca} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

8. Prove that if  $x, y, z$  are real numbers with  $z > 0$ , then

$$\frac{x^2 + y^2 + 12z^2 + 1}{4z} \geq x + y + 1.$$

9. Prove that the inequality  $(3a+b+c)^2 \geq 12a(b+c)$  holds for any real numbers  $a, b, c$ .

10. Prove that if  $x, y, z > 0$ , then

- (a)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{xy}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{yz}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{zx}} \leq \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z}.$
- (b)  $\frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{z^2} + \frac{z^2}{x^2} \geq \frac{x}{z} + \frac{z}{y} + \frac{y}{x}.$
- (c)  $\frac{x^2}{y} + \frac{y^2}{z} + \frac{z^2}{x} \geq x\sqrt{\frac{y}{z}} + y\sqrt{\frac{z}{x}} + z\sqrt{\frac{x}{y}}.$
- (d)  $x^4 + y^4 + z^4 \geq xyz(\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx}).$

11. Prove that if  $x, y > 0$ , then

$$\frac{1}{x+y} \leq \frac{1}{4x} + \frac{1}{4y}.$$

12. Let  $a, b, c \geq 0$  and  $a + b + c \leq 3$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a}{1+a^2} + \frac{b}{1+b^2} + \frac{c}{1+c^2} \leq \frac{3}{2} \leq \frac{1}{1+a} + \frac{1}{1+b} + \frac{1}{1+c}.$$

13. Prove the inequality  $x^4 + y^4 + 8 \geq 8xy$  for positive real numbers  $x, y$ .

14. Prove that if  $a$  and  $b$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\left(1 + \frac{a}{b}\right)^n + \left(1 + \frac{b}{a}\right)^n \geq 2^{n+1}.$$

15. Prove that if  $p, q > 0$  and  $p + q = 1$ , then

$$\left(p + \frac{1}{p}\right)^2 + \left(q + \frac{1}{q}\right)^2 \geq \frac{25}{2}.$$

16. Prove that if  $x + y + z = 1$  then,

$$8\left(\frac{1}{2} - xy - yz - zx\right) \left( \frac{1}{(x+y)^2} + \frac{1}{(y+z)^2} + \frac{1}{(z+x)^2} \right) \geq 9.$$

17. Prove that if  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are distinct positive real numbers and  $a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n = S$ , then

$$\frac{S}{S-a_1} + \frac{S}{S-a_2} + \dots + \frac{S}{S-a_n} > \frac{n^2}{n-1}.$$

18. Find the minimum value of

$$\frac{a_1}{1+a_2+a_3+\dots+a_{2009}} + \frac{a_2}{1+a_1+a_3+\dots+a_{2009}} + \dots + \frac{a_{2009}}{1+a_1+a_2+\dots+a_{2008}}$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{2009} > 0$  and  $a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{2009} = 1$ .

19. Prove that for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  we have  $\frac{x^2}{1+x^4} \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

20. Let  $x, y \geq 1$ . Prove that  $x\sqrt{y-1} + y\sqrt{x-1} \leq xy$ .

21. Prove the inequality  $\frac{x^2+2}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} \geq 2$  for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

22. Let  $x > y > 0$  and  $xy = 1$ . Prove that  $\frac{x^2+y^2}{x-y} > 2\sqrt{2}$ .

23. Prove that if  $x > y \geq 0$ , then  $x + \frac{4}{(x-y)(y+1)^2} \geq 3$ .



24. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  then  $\frac{a^3}{bc} + \frac{b^3}{ca} + \frac{c^3}{ab} \geq a + b + c$ .
25. Prove that if  $a + b + c = 1$ , then  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \frac{1}{3}$ .
26. Prove that if  $a + b + c = 3$ , then  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq 3 \geq ab + bc + ca$ .
27. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$ . Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a+b+1} + \frac{1}{b+c+1} + \frac{1}{c+a+1} \geq 1.$$

28. Prove that the inequality

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{3} \geq ab + bc + ca$$

holds for any real numbers  $a, b, c$ .

29. Prove that if  $x, y, z > 0$ , then

$$\frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{z^2} + \frac{z^2}{x^2} \geq \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x}.$$

30. Prove that if  $x^3 + y^3 = 2$ , then  $x + y \leq 2$ .
31. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers with  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 24$ . Prove that  $a + b + c \leq 6$ .
32. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then  $\frac{a}{b+c+d} + \frac{b}{a+c+d} + \frac{c}{a+b+d} + \frac{d}{a+b+c} \geq \frac{4}{3}$ .
33. Prove that if  $a + b \geq 1$ , then  $a^4 + b^4 \geq \frac{1}{8}$ .
34. Let  $a, b, c > 0$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^3 - a + 2}{b + c} + \frac{b^3 - b + 2}{c + a} + \frac{c^3 - c + 2}{a + b} \geq 3.$$

35. Prove that for positive real numbers  $x, y, z$  we have

$$\frac{x}{x+2y+2z} + \frac{y}{y+2z+2x} + \frac{z}{z+2x+2y} \geq \frac{3}{5}.$$

36. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a^4}{b^2c^2} + \frac{b^4}{c^2a^2} + \frac{c^4}{a^2b^2} \geq \frac{a^2}{bc} + \frac{b^2}{ca} + \frac{c^2}{ab}.$$

37. Prove the inequality  $2\sqrt{x+1} - 2\sqrt{x} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} < 2\sqrt{x} - 2\sqrt{x-1}$  for  $x \geq 1$ .

38. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  then

$$\frac{1}{b(a+b)} + \frac{1}{c(b+c)} + \frac{1}{a(c+a)} \geq \frac{27}{2(a+b+c)^2}.$$

39. Prove that for  $x, y > 0$ ,

$$\frac{1}{(1 + \sqrt{x})^2} + \frac{1}{(1 + \sqrt{y})^2} \geq \frac{2}{x + y + 2}.$$

40. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  then

$$\frac{a^3 + 2}{3b + 3c} + \frac{b^3 + 2}{3c + 3a} + \frac{c^3 + 2}{3a + 3b} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

41. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$1 + \frac{3}{ab + bc + ca} \geq \frac{6}{a + b + c}.$$

42. Solve the system in  $\mathbb{R}^+$

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + c + d &= 12 \\ abcd &= 27 + ab + ac + ad + bc + bd + cd. \end{aligned}$$

43. Solve the system in the set of real numbers

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4x^2}{4x^2 + 1} &= y, \\ \frac{4y^2}{4y^2 + 1} &= z, \\ \frac{4z^2}{4z^2 + 1} &= x. \end{aligned}$$

44. Solve the system where  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} x + \frac{2}{x} &= 2y, \\ y + \frac{2}{y} &= 2z, \\ z + \frac{2}{z} &= 2x. \end{aligned}$$

45. Find the positive real numbers  $x, y, z, t$  satisfying the system

$$\begin{aligned} 16xyzt &= (x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2)(xyz + xyt + xzt + yzt), \\ 8 &= 2xy + 2zt + xz + xt + yz + yt. \end{aligned}$$

## Chapter 2

# CAUCHY-SCHWARZ INEQUALITY

**Theorem 3** (*Cauchy-Schwarz*) If  $x_i, y_i$  are real numbers, then

$$(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2)(y_1^2 + y_2^2 + \dots + y_n^2) \geq (x_1y_1 + x_2y_2 + \dots + x_ny_n)^2$$

and equality holds if and only if  $\frac{x_1}{y_1} = \frac{x_2}{y_2} = \dots = \frac{x_n}{y_n}$ .

**Example 6** Prove that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{3}$  for any real numbers  $a, b, c$ .

Solution: By Cauchy-Schwarz we have that

$$(1^2 + 1^2 + 1^2)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \geq (1 \cdot a + 1 \cdot b + 1 \cdot c)^2 = (a + b + c)^2.$$

Therefore,  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{3}$ .

**Example 7** Let  $x, y, z$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{x^2}{x+y} + \frac{y^2}{y+z} + \frac{z^2}{z+x} \geq \frac{x+y+z}{2}.$$

Solution: By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} [(\sqrt{x+y})^2 + (\sqrt{y+z})^2 + (\sqrt{z+x})^2] & \left( \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{x+y}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{y}{\sqrt{y+z}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{z+x}} \right)^2 \right) \geq \\ & \left( \sqrt{x+y} \cdot \frac{x}{\sqrt{x+y}} + \sqrt{y+z} \cdot \frac{y}{\sqrt{y+z}} + \sqrt{z+x} \cdot \frac{z}{\sqrt{z+x}} \right)^2 = (x+y+z)^2 \end{aligned}$$

So, what we got is  $(2x + 2y + 2z) \left( \frac{x^2}{x+y} + \frac{y^2}{y+z} + \frac{z^2}{z+x} \right) \geq (x+y+z)^2$ .

Therefore,  $\frac{x^2}{x+y} + \frac{y^2}{y+z} + \frac{z^2}{z+x} \geq \frac{x+y+z}{2}$ .

This is a very useful trick that can be applied to many problems. We can generalize this result as:

$$\frac{x_1^2}{y_1} + \frac{x_2^2}{y_2} + \dots + \frac{x_n^2}{y_n} \geq \frac{(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)^2}{y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_n} \quad (2.1)$$

**Example 8** Let  $a, b, c > 0$ . Prove that  $\frac{a^3}{b+c} + \frac{b^3}{c+a} + \frac{c^3}{a+b} \geq \frac{a^2+b^2+c^2}{2}$ .

Solution: We can write  $\frac{a^3}{b+c} = \frac{a^4}{ab+ac}$  and similarly  $\frac{b^3}{c+a} = \frac{b^4}{bc+ba}$  and  $\frac{c^3}{a+b} = \frac{c^4}{ca+cb}$ .  
So by (2.1) we have

$$LHS = \frac{a^4}{ab+ac} + \frac{b^4}{bc+ba} + \frac{c^4}{ca+cb} \geq \frac{(a^2+b^2+c^2)^2}{2(ab+bc+ca)} \geq \frac{a^2+b^2+c^2}{2}$$

by (1.1) as desired.

## 2.1 EXERCISES

46. Prove that the inequality  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq \frac{(x+2y+3z)^2}{14}$  holds for any  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ .

47. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$(a + b + c)\left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) \geq 9.$$

48. Prove that if  $x, y > 0$  and  $x + 3y = 1$  then  $x^2 + y^2 \geq \frac{1}{10}$ .

49.  $a, b, c, x, y, z$  are real numbers and  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 16$ ,  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 25$  and  $ax + by + cz = 20$ . Compute  $\frac{a+b+c}{x+y+z}$ .

50. Prove that if  $a, b > 0$ , then  $\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} \leq \sqrt{\frac{a^2}{b}} + \sqrt{\frac{b^2}{a}}$ .

51. Solve the system

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_k &= 9 \\ \frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{x_k} &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

where  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .

52. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers with  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\frac{a^2}{a+b} + \frac{b^2}{b+c} + \frac{c^2}{c+a} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

53. Prove that if  $x, y, z > 0$  and  $x + y + z = 1$ , then

$$8\left(\frac{1}{2} - xy - yz - zx\right) \left( \frac{1}{(x+y)^2} + \frac{1}{(y+z)^2} + \frac{1}{(z+x)^2} \right) \geq 9.$$

54. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  then

$$\frac{a}{(b+c)^2} + \frac{b}{(c+a)^2} + \frac{c}{(a+b)^2} \geq \frac{9}{4(a+b+c)}.$$

55. Prove that if  $a, b, c, d$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{4}{c} + \frac{16}{d} \geq \frac{64}{a+b+c+d}.$$

56. Let  $a, b, c, d$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\sqrt{(a+c)(b+d)} \geq \sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{cd}.$$

57. Let  $a > c > 0$  and  $b > c > 0$ . Prove that  $\sqrt{c(a-c)} + \sqrt{c(b-c)} \leq \sqrt{ab}$ .

58. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $a + b + c = 3$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^2}{a+b+1} + \frac{b^2}{b+c+1} + \frac{c^2}{c+a+1} \geq 1.$$

59. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $abc = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^2}{a+b+1} + \frac{b^2}{b+c+1} + \frac{c^2}{c+a+1} \geq 1.$$

60. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^3}{a+2b} + \frac{b^3}{b+2c} + \frac{c^3}{c+2a} \geq 1.$$

61. Let  $a, b, c, x, y, z$  be positive real numbers such that  $x + y + z = 1$ . Prove that

$$ax + by + cz + 2\sqrt{(xy + yz + zx)(ab + bc + ca)} \leq a + b + c.$$

62. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{a^3}{b^2} + \frac{b^3}{c^2} + \frac{c^3}{a^2} \geq \frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a}.$$

63. Prove that if  $a, b, c, x, y, z > 0$ , then

$$\frac{x^4}{a^3} + \frac{y^4}{b^3} + \frac{z^4}{c^3} \geq \frac{(x + y + z)^4}{(a + b + c)^3}.$$

64. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{a}{a+2b} + \frac{b}{b+2c} + \frac{c}{c+2a} \geq 1.$$

65. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{a}{b+2c} + \frac{b}{c+2a} + \frac{c}{a+2b} \geq 1.$$

66. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a}{2a+b} + \frac{b}{2b+c} + \frac{c}{2c+a} \leq 1.$$

67. Let  $a, b, c, d$  be positive real numbers such that  $(a^2 + b^2)^3 = c^2 + d^2$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^3}{c} + \frac{b^3}{d} \geq 1.$$

68. Let  $a, b$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{a^4 + b^4}{a^3 + b^3} \geq \frac{a^2 + b^2}{a + b}.$$

69. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $abc = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + 1}{a + b + 1} + \frac{b^2 + c^2 + 1}{b + c + 1} + \frac{c^2 + a^2 + 1}{c + a + 1} \geq 3.$$

70. Prove that if  $a, b, c, x, y, z > 0$  and  $(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^3 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ , then

$$\frac{a^3}{x} + \frac{b^3}{y} + \frac{c^3}{z} \geq 1.$$

71. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{27a^2}{c} + \frac{(b+c)^2}{a} \geq 12b.$$

72. Let  $a, b, c, d \geq 0$  with  $ab + bc + cd + da = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^3}{b+c+d} + \frac{b^3}{a+c+d} + \frac{c^3}{a+b+d} + \frac{d^3}{a+b+c} \geq \frac{1}{3}.$$

73. Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n; b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$  be positive real numbers such that  $a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n = b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_n$ . Show that

$$\frac{a_1^2}{a_1 + b_1} + \frac{a_2^2}{a_2 + b_2} + \dots + \frac{a_n^2}{a_n + b_n} \geq \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{2}.$$

74. Let  $a, b, c > 0$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a}{b(b+c)^2} + \frac{b}{c(c+a)^2} + \frac{c}{a(a+b)^2} \geq \frac{9}{4(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)}.$$

75. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $a + b + c = 3$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^2(b+1)}{a+b+ab} + \frac{b^2(c+1)}{b+c+bc} + \frac{c^2(a+1)}{c+a+ca} \geq 2.$$





## Chapter 3

# REARRANGEMENT INEQUALITY

**Definition 6** Let  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_n$  and  $b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$ . The number  $A = a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + \dots + a_nb_n$  is called ordered sum and the number  $B = a_1b_n + a_2b_{n-1} + \dots + a_nb_1$  is called reversed sum. And if  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is a permutation of  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$  then  $X = a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n$  is called a mixed sum.

**Theorem 4** Let  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_n$  and  $b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$  be given. For any mixed sum  $X$  we have  $B \leq X \leq A$ .

**Example 9** Prove that for positive real numbers  $a, b, c$  the inequality  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca$  holds.

Solution: Since the inequality is symmetric, WLOG we can assume that  $a \geq b \geq c$ . So by Rearrangement inequality, being the ordered sum

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = a \cdot a + b \cdot b + c \cdot c \geq a \cdot b + b \cdot c + c \cdot a.$$

**Example 10** Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{ab}{c} + \frac{bc}{a} + \frac{ca}{b} \geq a + b + c.$$

Solution: WLOG, we can assume that  $a \geq b \geq c$ . Then  $ab \geq ac \geq bc$  and  $\frac{1}{c} \geq \frac{1}{b} \geq \frac{1}{a}$ . By Rearrangement inequality we have,

$$LHS = ab \cdot \frac{1}{c} + ac \cdot \frac{1}{b} + bc \cdot \frac{1}{a} \geq ab \cdot \frac{1}{a} + ac \cdot \frac{1}{c} + bc \cdot \frac{1}{b} = a + b + c.$$

**Example 11** Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{a^3}{bc} + \frac{b^3}{ca} + \frac{c^3}{ab} \geq a + b + c.$$

Solution: By symmetry assume that  $a \geq b \geq c$  then  $a^3 \geq b^3 \geq c^3$  and  $\frac{1}{bc} \geq \frac{1}{ca} \geq \frac{1}{ab}$ . By Rearrangement inequality we have that

$$LHS = a^3 \cdot \frac{1}{bc} + b^3 \cdot \frac{1}{ca} + c^3 \cdot \frac{1}{ab} \geq a^3 \cdot \frac{1}{ca} + b^3 \cdot \frac{1}{ab} + c^3 \cdot \frac{1}{bc} = \frac{a^2}{c} + \frac{b^2}{a} + \frac{c^2}{b}$$

And again by Rearrangement inequality, being the reversed sum

$$a + b + c = a^2 \cdot \frac{1}{a} + b^2 \cdot \frac{1}{b} + c^2 \cdot \frac{1}{c} \leq a^2 \cdot \frac{1}{c} + b^2 \cdot \frac{1}{a} + c^2 \cdot \frac{1}{b}$$

Combining these two inequalities we get that

$$\frac{a^3}{bc} + \frac{b^3}{ca} + \frac{c^3}{ab} \geq a + b + c.$$

### 3.1 EXERCISES

76. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

- (a)  $a^3 + b^3 \geq ab(a + b)$
- (b)  $a^5 + b^5 \geq ab(a^3 + b^3)$
- (c)  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 \geq a^2b + b^2c + c^2a$
- (d)  $ab + bc + ca \geq a\sqrt{bc} + b\sqrt{ca} + c\sqrt{ab}$
- (e)  $\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq a + b + c$
- (f)  $\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2} \geq \frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c}$
- (g)  $abc(ab + bc + ca) \leq a^3b^2 + b^3c^2 + c^3a^2$
- (h)  $\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{a}{a+b} + \frac{b}{b+c} + \frac{c}{c+a}$ .

77. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers, then

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

78. Let  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^+$  and  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  be a permutation of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . Prove that

$$\frac{x_1^2}{y_1} + \frac{x_2^2}{y_2} + \dots + \frac{x_n^2}{y_n} \geq x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n.$$

79. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{x_1^2}{x_2} + \frac{x_2^2}{x_3} + \dots + \frac{x_n^2}{x_1} \geq x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n.$$

80. Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  be distinct positive integers. Prove that

$$\frac{a_1}{1^2} + \frac{a_2}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{n^2} \geq \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}.$$

81. Prove that if for any  $a, b, c$  we have

$$\frac{a^2}{a+b} + \frac{b^2}{b+c} + \frac{c^2}{c+a} \geq \frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \geq \frac{a^2}{c+a} + \frac{b^2}{a+b} + \frac{c^2}{b+c}$$

then  $a = b = c$ .

82. Let  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq a_3$  and  $b_1 \geq b_2 \geq b_3$ . Prove that

$$a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3 \geq \frac{1}{3}(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)(b_1 + b_2 + b_3)$$



## Chapter 4

# Chebyshev's Inequality

**Theorem 5** Let  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n$  and  $b_1 \geq b_2 \geq \dots \geq b_n$ . Then

$$a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + \dots + a_nb_n \geq \frac{1}{n}(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)(b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_n) \geq a_1b_n + a_2b_{n-1} + \dots + a_nb_1.$$

**Example 12** Prove that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \frac{1}{3}(a + b + c)^2$ .

Solution: By Chebyshev's inequality,

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = a \cdot a + b \cdot b + c \cdot c \geq \frac{1}{3}(a + b + c)(a + b + c) = \frac{1}{3}(a + b + c)^2.$$

**Example 13** Let  $a, b, c > 0$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

Solution: Due to symmetry, we can assume that  $a \geq b \geq c$  then  $\frac{1}{b+c} \geq \frac{1}{c+a} \geq \frac{1}{a+b}$ . So by Chebyshev's inequality we have

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{1}{3}(a+b+c)\left(\frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} + \frac{1}{a+b}\right) \quad (4.1)$$

And by AM-HM we have

$$\frac{1}{3}\left(\frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} + \frac{1}{a+b}\right) \geq \frac{3}{b+c+c+a+a+b} = \frac{3}{2(a+b+c)} \quad (4.2)$$

Combining (4.1) and (4.2) we get,

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

**Example 14** Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

Solution: WLOG, suppose that  $a \geq b \geq c$ . Then  $a^2 \geq b^2 \geq c^2$  and  $\frac{1}{b+c} \geq \frac{1}{c+a} \geq \frac{1}{a+b}$ . So by Chebyshev's inequality we have,

$$\frac{a^2}{b+c} + \frac{b^2}{c+a} + \frac{c^2}{a+b} \geq \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)\left(\frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} + \frac{1}{a+b}\right)$$

By Example 11 and (4.2) we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3}(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)\left(\frac{1}{b+c} + \frac{1}{c+a} + \frac{1}{a+b}\right) &\geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{2(a+b+c)} = \\ &= \frac{a+b+c}{2} \geq \frac{\sqrt[3]{abc}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

## 4.1 EXERCISES

83. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

- (a)  $a^3 + b^3 \geq \frac{(a+b)(a^2+b^2)}{2}$
- (b)  $\frac{a^{n+1}+b^{n+1}}{a^n+b^n} \geq \frac{a+b}{2}$
- (c)  $a^4 + b^4 + c^4 \geq abc(a+b+c)$
- (d)  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^3}{9}$

84. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a}{a+2b+2c} + \frac{b}{b+2c+2a} + \frac{c}{c+2a+2b} \geq \frac{3}{5}.$$

85. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a}{a+3b+3c} + \frac{b}{b+3c+3a} + \frac{c}{c+3a+3b} \geq \frac{3}{7}.$$

86. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\frac{a^2}{a+2b+2c} + \frac{b^2}{b+2c+2a} + \frac{c^2}{c+2a+2b} \geq \frac{3}{5}.$$

87. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a^3}{b+c} + \frac{b^3}{c+a} + \frac{c^3}{a+b} \geq \frac{ab+bc+ca}{2}.$$

88. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\frac{a^3}{b+c+1} + \frac{b^3}{c+a+1} + \frac{c^3}{a+b+1} \geq 1.$$

89. Let  $a, b, c, d \geq 0$  with  $ab + bc + cd + da = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^3}{b+c+d} + \frac{b^3}{a+c+d} + \frac{c^3}{a+b+d} + \frac{d^3}{a+b+c} \geq \frac{1}{3}.$$

90. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{b+c}{a+3b+3c} + \frac{c+a}{b+3c+3a} + \frac{a+b}{c+3a+3b} \leq \frac{6}{7}.$$

91. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{b+c}{a+2b+2c} + \frac{c+a}{b+2c+2a} + \frac{a+b}{c+2a+2b} \leq \frac{6}{5}.$$

92. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $abc = 1$  then

$$\frac{a}{b+c+1} + \frac{b}{c+a+1} + \frac{c}{a+b+1} \geq 1.$$

93. Let  $x, y, z$  be positive real numbers with  $xyz = 1$  and  $a \geq 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{x^a}{y+z} + \frac{y^a}{z+x} + \frac{z^a}{x+y} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

94. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $a + b + c = 1$ , then

$$\frac{a^3}{b^2+c^2} + \frac{b^3}{c^2+a^2} + \frac{c^3}{a^2+b^2} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

95. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  then

$$\frac{a^5}{b^3+c^3} + \frac{b^5}{c^3+a^3} + \frac{c^5}{a^3+b^3} \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{6}.$$

96. Let  $a, b, c > 0$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^3+b^3}{a^2+b^2} + \frac{b^3+c^3}{b^2+c^2} + \frac{c^3+a^3}{c^2+a^2} \geq a+b+c.$$





## Chapter 5

# MIXED PROBLEMS

97. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + 1} + \frac{1}{b^3 + c^3 + 1} + \frac{1}{c^3 + a^3 + 1} \leq 1.$$

98. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\frac{1}{a + b + 1} + \frac{1}{b + c + 1} + \frac{1}{c + a + 1} \leq 1.$$

99. Prove that if  $x, y, z > 0$  then

$$\frac{xy}{x^2 + xy + yz} + \frac{yz}{y^2 + yz + zx} + \frac{zx}{z^2 + zx + xy} \leq 1.$$

100. Prove that if  $x, y, z > 0$  then

$$\frac{xy}{3x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2} + \frac{yz}{3y^2 + 2z^2 + x^2} + \frac{zx}{3z^2 + 2x^2 + y^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

101. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\frac{ab}{a^5 + b^5 + ab} + \frac{bc}{b^5 + c^5 + bc} + \frac{ca}{c^5 + a^5 + ca} \leq 1.$$

102. Let  $a, b, c$  be real numbers such that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^2}{1 + 2bc} + \frac{b^2}{1 + 2ca} + \frac{c^2}{1 + 2ab} \geq \frac{3}{5}.$$

103. (IMO95/2) Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be positive real numbers such that  $abc = 1$ .  
Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a^3(b+c)} + \frac{1}{b^3(c+a)} + \frac{1}{c^3(a+b)} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

104. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $a + b + c = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a^3}{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{b^3}{b^2 + c^2} + \frac{c^3}{c^2 + a^2} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

105. (IMO2000/2) Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers with product 1. Prove that

$$(a - 1 + \frac{1}{b})(b - 1 + \frac{1}{c})(c - 1 + \frac{1}{a}) \leq 1.$$

106. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  and  $abc = 1$ , then

$$1 + \frac{3}{a + b + c} \geq \frac{6}{ab + bc + ca}.$$

107. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $abc \leq 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq a + b + c.$$

108. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers such that  $abc = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{b + c}{\sqrt{a}} + \frac{c + a}{\sqrt{b}} + \frac{a + b}{\sqrt{c}} \geq \sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c} + 3.$$

109. If  $a, b, c \in (0, 1)$ , then prove that

$$\sqrt{abc} + \sqrt{(1-a)(1-b)(1-c)} < 1.$$

110. Prove that  $\sqrt{a^2 + (b-1)^2} + \sqrt{b^2 + (c-1)^2} + \sqrt{c^2 + (a-1)^2} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$  for arbitrary real numbers  $a, b, c$ .

111. Prove that  $3(a^2 - ab + b^2) \geq a^2 + ab + b^2$  for any real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ .

112. (Russia2002) Let  $x, y, z$  be positive real numbers with sum 3. Prove that

$$\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z} \geq xy + yz + zx.$$

113. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{ab}{a + b + 2c} + \frac{bc}{b + c + 2a} + \frac{ca}{c + a + 2b} \leq \frac{a + b + c}{4}.$$

114. Prove that

$$\frac{a^3}{a^2 + ab + b^2} + \frac{b^3}{b^2 + bc + c^2} + \frac{c^3}{c^2 + ca + a^2} \geq \frac{a + b + c}{3}$$

for positive real numbers  $a, b, c$ .

115. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a^3}{b^2 - bc + c^2} + \frac{b^3}{c^2 - ca + a^2} + \frac{c^3}{a^2 - ab + b^2} \geq \frac{3(ab + bc + ca)}{a + b + c}.$$

116. (IMO2001/2) Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + 8bc}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{b^2 + 8ca}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{c^2 + 8ab}} \geq 1.$$

117. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive, then

$$\frac{a^3 + b^3}{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{b^3 + c^3}{b^2 + c^2} + \frac{c^3 + a^3}{c^2 + a^2} \geq a + b + c.$$

118. Prove that for positive real numbers  $a, b, c, d$  the inequality holds

$$\sqrt[3]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{cd} \leq \sqrt[3]{(a + c + b)(a + c + d)}.$$

119. Let  $x, y, z$  be positive reals with  $x + y + z = 1$  and let  $a = \sqrt{x^2 + xy + y^2}$ ,  $b = \sqrt{y^2 + yz + z^2}$ ,  $c = \sqrt{z^2 + zx + x^2}$ . Prove that  $ab + bc + ca \geq 1$ .

120. Let  $a, b, c > 0$ . Prove that

$$\frac{1}{a + b} + \frac{1}{b + c} + \frac{1}{c + a} \geq \frac{9}{a + b + c + \sqrt{3(ab + bc + ca)}}.$$

121. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $abc = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a + b + 1}{a + b^2 + c^3} + \frac{b + c + 1}{b + c^2 + a^3} + \frac{c + a + 1}{c + a^2 + b^3} \leq \frac{(a + 1)(b + 1)(c + 1) + 1}{a + b + c}.$$

122. If  $x, y > 0$  and  $x^2 + y^3 \geq x^3 + y^4$ . Prove that  $x^3 + y^3 \leq 2$ .

123. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{ab^3}{c} + \frac{bc^3}{a} + \frac{ca^3}{b} + 3abc \geq 2(a^2b + b^2c + c^2a).$$

124. Prove that if  $a, b, c$  are positive real numbers with  $a + b + c = 1$ , then

$$\frac{a^5}{a^4 + b^4} + \frac{b^5}{b^4 + c^4} + \frac{c^5}{c^4 + a^4} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

125. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $abc = 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a}{a^2 + 2} + \frac{b}{b^2 + 2} + \frac{c}{c^2 + 2} \leq 1.$$

126. (Mathematical Excalibur) Let  $x, y, z > 1$ . Prove that

$$\frac{x^4}{(y-1)^2} + \frac{y^4}{(z-1)^2} + \frac{z^4}{(x-1)^2} \geq 48.$$

127. (MMO/2009) Let  $a, b, c > 0$  such that  $ab + bc + ca = \frac{1}{3}$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a}{a^2 - bc + 1} + \frac{b}{b^2 - ca + 1} + \frac{c}{c^2 - ab + 1} \geq \frac{1}{a + b + c}.$$

128. Prove that  $\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^+$  we have:

$$\sum \frac{x^5}{x^3yz + yz^4} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

129. Let  $x, y, z > 0$ . Prove that

$$\frac{x^3}{y(x^2 + 2y^2)} + \frac{y^3}{z(y^2 + 2z^2)} + \frac{z^3}{x(z^2 + 2x^2)} \leq 1.$$

130. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a}{a^2 + b + 1} + \frac{b}{b^2 + c + 1} + \frac{c}{c^2 + a + 1} \leq 1.$$

131. Prove that if  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $abc = 1$ , then

$$\sum \frac{a^3 + b^3 + 1}{a^2 + b^2 + 1} \geq 3.$$

132. Prove that if  $x, y, z > 0$ , then

$$\sum \frac{x^2z^2 + y^4 + y^2z^2}{yz(xz + y^2 + yz)} \geq 3.$$

133. Let  $a, b, c > 0$  with  $(a+b)(b+c)(c+a) = 8$ . Prove that

$$\frac{a+b+c}{3} \geq \sqrt[27]{\frac{a^3 + b^3 + c^3}{3}}.$$

134. Let  $x, y, z$  be positive reals. Prove that

$$\frac{yz}{2x^2 + yz} + \frac{zx}{2y^2 + zx} + \frac{xy}{2z^2 + xy} \geq 1.$$

135. Let  $x, y, z$  be positive reals. Prove that

$$\frac{x^2}{2x^2 + yz} + \frac{y^2}{2y^2 + zx} + \frac{z^2}{2z^2 + xy} \leq 1.$$

136. Let  $a, b, x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Prove that

$$\frac{x}{ay + bz} + \frac{y}{az + bx} + \frac{z}{ax + by} \geq \frac{3}{a + b}.$$

## Chapter 6

# PROBLEMS FROM OLYMPIADS

(From 'Inequalities Through Problems'-Hojoo Lee)

**1 (BMO 2005, Proposed by Serbia and Montenegro)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2}{b} + \frac{b^2}{c} + \frac{c^2}{a} \geq a + b + c + \frac{4(a-b)^2}{a+b+c}$$

**2 (Romania 2005, Cezar Lupu)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{b+c}{a^2} + \frac{c+a}{b^2} + \frac{a+b}{c^2} \geq \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}$$

**3 (Romania 2005, Traian Tamaian)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b+2c+d} + \frac{b}{c+2d+a} + \frac{c}{d+2a+b} + \frac{d}{a+2b+c} \geq 1$$

**4 (Romania 2005, Cezar Lupu)** ( $a+b+c \geq \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a+b+c \geq \frac{3}{abc}$$

**5 (Romania 2005, Cezar Lupu)** ( $1 = (a+b)(b+c)(c+a)$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$ab+bc+ca \geq \frac{3}{4}$$

**6 (Romania 2005, Robert Szasz)** ( $a + b + c = 3$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a^2b^2c^2 \geq (3 - 2a)(3 - 2b)(3 - 2c)$$

**7 (Romania 2005)** ( $abc \geq 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{1 + a + b} + \frac{1}{1 + b + c} + \frac{1}{1 + c + a} \leq 1$$

**8 (Romania 2005, Unused)** ( $abc = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b^2(c+1)} + \frac{b}{c^2(a+1)} + \frac{c}{a^2(b+1)} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

**9 (Romania 2005, Unused)** ( $a + b + c \geq \frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^3c}{b(c+a)} + \frac{b^3a}{c(a+b)} + \frac{c^3b}{a(b+c)} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

**10 (Romania 2005, Unused)** ( $a + b + c = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+b}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

**11 (Romania 2005, Unused)** ( $ab + bc + ca + 2abc = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{bc} + \sqrt{ca} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

**12 (Chzech and Solvak 2005)** ( $abc = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{(a+1)(b+1)} + \frac{b}{(b+1)(c+1)} + \frac{c}{(c+1)(a+1)} \geq \frac{3}{4}$$

**13 (Japan 2005)** ( $a + b + c = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a(1+b-c)^{\frac{1}{3}} + b(1+c-a)^{\frac{1}{3}} + c(1+a-b)^{\frac{1}{3}} \leq 1$$

**14 (Germany 2005)** ( $a + b + c = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$2 \left( \frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{c} \right) \geq \frac{1+a}{1-a} + \frac{1+b}{1-b} + \frac{1+c}{1-c}$$

**15 (Vietnam 2005)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\left( \frac{a}{a+b} \right)^3 + \left( \frac{b}{b+c} \right)^3 + \left( \frac{c}{c+a} \right)^3 \geq \frac{3}{8}$$

**16 (China 2005)** ( $a + b + c = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$10(a^3 + b^3 + c^3) - 9(a^5 + b^5 + c^5) \geq 1$$

**17 (China 2005)** ( $abcd = 1, a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{(1+a)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+b)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+c)^2} + \frac{1}{(1+d)^2} \geq 1$$

**18 (China 2005)** ( $ab + bc + ca = \frac{1}{3}, a, b, c \geq 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{a^2 - bc + 1} + \frac{1}{b^2 - ca + 1} + \frac{1}{c^2 - ab + 1} \leq 3$$

**19 (Poland 2005)** ( $0 \leq a, b, c \leq 1$ )

$$\frac{a}{bc+1} + \frac{b}{ca+1} + \frac{c}{ab+1} \leq 2$$

**20 (Poland 2005)** ( $ab + bc + ca = 3, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 + 6abc \geq 9$$

**21 (Baltic Way 2005)** ( $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{a^2+2} + \frac{b}{b^2+2} + \frac{c}{c^2+2} \leq 1$$

**22 (Serbia and Montenegro 2005)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{b+c}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{c+a}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a+b}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}(a+b+c)}$$

**23 (Serbia and Montenegro 2005)** ( $a+b+c=3$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c} \geq ab + bc + ca$$

**24 (Bosnia and Hercegovina 2005)** ( $a+b+c=1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a\sqrt{b} + b\sqrt{c} + c\sqrt{a} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

**25 (Iran 2005)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\left(\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a}\right)^2 \geq (a+b+c) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right)$$

**26 (Austria 2005)** ( $a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{a^3} + \frac{1}{b^3} + \frac{1}{c^3} + \frac{1}{d^3} \geq \frac{a+b+c+d}{abcd}$$

**27 (Moldova 2005)** ( $a^4 + b^4 + c^4 = 3$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{4-ab} + \frac{1}{4-bc} + \frac{1}{4-ca} \leq 1$$

**28 (APMO 2005)** ( $abc = 8$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{(1+a^3)(1+b^3)}} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{(1+b^3)(1+c^3)}} + \frac{c^2}{\sqrt{(1+c^3)(1+a^3)}} \geq \frac{4}{3}$$

**29 (IMO 2005)** ( $xyz \geq 1$ ,  $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x^5 - x^2}{x^5 + y^2 + z^2} + \frac{y^5 - y^2}{y^5 + z^2 + x^2} + \frac{z^5 - z^2}{z^5 + x^2 + y^2} \geq 0$$



**30 (Poland 2004)** ( $a + b + c = 0, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$b^2c^2 + c^2a^2 + a^2b^2 + 3 \geq 6abc$$

**31 (Baltic Way 2004)** ( $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0, n \in \mathbb{N}$ )

$$\frac{1}{a^n + b^n + 1} + \frac{1}{b^n + c^n + 1} + \frac{1}{c^n + a^n + 1} \leq 1$$

**32 (Junior Balkan 2004)** ( $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 - \{(0, 0)\}$ )

$$\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{x^2 + y^2} \geq \frac{x + y}{x^2 - xy + y^2}$$

**33 (IMO Short List 2004)** ( $ab + bc + ca = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{a} + 6b} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{b} + 6c} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{c} + 6a} \leq \frac{1}{abc}$$

**34 (APMO 2004)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$(a^2 + 2)(b^2 + 2)(c^2 + 2) \geq 9(ab + bc + ca)$$

**35 (USA 2004)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$(a^5 - a^2 + 3)(b^5 - b^2 + 3)(c^5 - c^2 + 3) \geq (a + b + c)^3$$

**36 (Junior BMO 2003)** ( $x, y, z > -1$ )

$$\frac{1 + x^2}{1 + y + z^2} + \frac{1 + y^2}{1 + z + x^2} + \frac{1 + z^2}{1 + x + y^2} \geq 2$$

**37 (USA 2003)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{(2a + b + c)^2}{2a^2 + (b + c)^2} + \frac{(2b + c + a)^2}{2b^2 + (c + a)^2} + \frac{(2c + a + b)^2}{2c^2 + (a + b)^2} \leq 8$$

**38 (Russia 2002)** ( $x + y + z = 3$ ,  $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z} \geq xy + yz + zx$$

**39 (Latvia 2002)**  $\left(\frac{1}{1+a^4} + \frac{1}{1+b^4} + \frac{1}{1+c^4} + \frac{1}{1+d^4} = 1, a, b, c, d > 0\right)$

$$abcd \geq 3$$

**40 (Albania 2002)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{3\sqrt{3}}(a^2+b^2+c^2)\left(\frac{1}{a}+\frac{1}{b}+\frac{1}{c}\right) \geq a+b+c+\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}$$

**41 (Belarus 2002)** ( $a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{(a+c)^2+(b+d)^2} + \frac{2|ad-bc|}{\sqrt{(a+c)^2+(b+d)^2}} \geq \sqrt{a^2+b^2} + \sqrt{c^2+d^2} \geq \sqrt{(a+c)^2+(b+d)^2}$$

**42 (Canada 2002)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^3}{bc} + \frac{b^3}{ca} + \frac{c^3}{ab} \geq a+b+c$$

**43 (Vietnam 2002, Dung Tran Nam)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 9$ ,  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$2(a+b+c) - abc \leq 10$$

**44 (Bosnia and Hercegovina 2002)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ ,  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$\frac{a^2}{1+2bc} + \frac{b^2}{1+2ca} + \frac{c^2}{1+2ab} \geq \frac{3}{5}$$

**45 (Junior BMO 2002)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{b(a+b)} + \frac{1}{c(b+c)} + \frac{1}{a(c+a)} \geq \frac{27}{2(a+b+c)^2}$$

**46 (Greece 2002)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b^2+1} + \frac{b}{c^2+1} + \frac{c}{a^2+1} \geq \frac{3}{4} \left( a\sqrt{a} + b\sqrt{b} + c\sqrt{c} \right)^2$$

**47 (Greece 2002)** ( $bc \neq 0, \frac{1-c^2}{bc} \geq 0, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$10(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - bc^3) \geq 2ab + 5ac$$

**48 (Taiwan 2002)** ( $a, b, c, d \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ )

$$\frac{abcd}{(1-a)(1-b)(1-c)(1-d)} \leq \frac{a^4 + b^4 + c^4 + d^4}{(1-a)^4 + (1-b)^4 + (1-c)^4 + (1-d)^4}$$

**49 (APMO 2002)** ( $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} = 1, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{x+yz} + \sqrt{y+zx} + \sqrt{z+xy} \geq \sqrt{xyz} + \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} + \sqrt{z}$$

**50 (Ireland 2001)** ( $x + y = 2, x, y \geq 0$ )

$$x^2 y^2 (x^2 + y^2) \leq 2.$$

**51 (BMO 2001)** ( $a + b + c \geq abc, a, b, c \geq 0$ )

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq \sqrt{3}abc$$

**52 (USA 2001)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + abc = 4, a, b, c \geq 0$ )

$$0 \leq ab + bc + ca - abc \leq 2$$

**53 (Columbia 2001)** ( $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$3(x + y + 1)^2 + 1 \geq 3xy$$

**54 (KMO Winter Program Test 2001)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{(a^2b + b^2c + c^2a)(ab^2 + bc^2 + ca^2)} \geq abc + \sqrt[3]{(a^3 + abc)(b^3 + abc)(c^3 + abc)}$$

**55 (KMO Summer Program Test 2001)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{a^4 + b^4 + c^4} + \sqrt{a^2b^2 + b^2c^2 + c^2a^2} \geq \sqrt{a^3b + b^3c + c^3a} + \sqrt{ab^3 + bc^3 + ca^3}$$

**56 (IMO 2001)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + 8bc}} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{b^2 + 8ca}} + \frac{c}{\sqrt{c^2 + 8ab}} \geq 1$$

## 6.1 Years 1996 ~ 2000

**57 (IMO 2000, Titu Andreescu)** ( $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\left(a - 1 + \frac{1}{b}\right) \left(b - 1 + \frac{1}{c}\right) \left(c - 1 + \frac{1}{a}\right) \leq 1$$

**58 (Czech and Slovakia 2000)** ( $a, b > 0$ )

$$\sqrt[3]{2(a+b) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}\right)} \geq \sqrt[3]{\frac{a}{b}} + \sqrt[3]{\frac{b}{a}}$$

**59 (Hong Kong 2000)** ( $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1 + ab^2}{c^3} + \frac{1 + bc^2}{a^3} + \frac{1 + ca^2}{b^3} \geq \frac{18}{a^3 + b^3 + c^3}$$

**60 (Czech Republic 2000)** ( $m, n \in \mathbb{N}, x \in [0, 1]$ )

$$(1 - x^n)^m + (1 - (1 - x)^m)^n \geq 1$$

**61 (Macedonia 2000)** ( $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \geq \sqrt{2} (xy + yz)$$

**62 (Russia 1999)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2 + 2bc}{b^2 + c^2} + \frac{b^2 + 2ca}{c^2 + a^2} + \frac{c^2 + 2ab}{a^2 + b^2} > 3$$

**63 (Belarus 1999)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{1+ab} + \frac{1}{1+bc} + \frac{1}{1+ca} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

**64 (Czech-Slovak Match 1999)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b+2c} + \frac{b}{c+2a} + \frac{c}{a+2b} \geq 1$$

**65 (Moldova 1999)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{ab}{c(c+a)} + \frac{bc}{a(a+b)} + \frac{ca}{b(b+c)} \geq \frac{a}{c+a} + \frac{b}{a+b} + \frac{c}{b+c}$$

**66 (United Kingdom 1999)** ( $p+q+r=1, p, q, r > 0$ )

$$7(pq + qr + rp) \leq 2 + 9pqr$$

**67 (Canada 1999)** ( $x+y+z=1, x, y, z \geq 0$ )

$$x^2y + y^2z + z^2x \leq \frac{4}{27}$$

**68 (Proposed for 1999 USAMO, [AB, pp.25])** ( $x, y, z > 1$ )

$$x^{x^2+2yz} y^{y^2+2zx} z^{z^2+2xy} \geq (xyz)^{xy+yz+zx}$$

**69 (Turkey, 1999)** ( $c \geq b \geq a \geq 0$ )

$$(a + 3b)(b + 4c)(c + 2a) \geq 60abc$$

**70 (Macedonia 1999)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a + b + c + \frac{1}{abc} \geq 4\sqrt{3}$$

**71 (Poland 1999)** ( $a + b + c = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2\sqrt{3abc} \leq 1$$

**72 (Canda 1999)** ( $x + y + z = 1$ ,  $x, y, z \geq 0$ )

$$x^2y + y^2z + z^2x \leq \frac{4}{27}$$

**73 (Iran 1998)** ( $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} = 2$ ,  $x, y, z > 1$ )

$$\sqrt{x+y+z} \geq \sqrt{x-1} + \sqrt{y-1} + \sqrt{z-1}$$

**74 (Belarus 1998, I. Gorodnin)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq \frac{a+b}{b+c} + \frac{b+c}{a+b} + 1$$

**75 (APMO 1998)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\left(1 + \frac{a}{b}\right) \left(1 + \frac{b}{c}\right) \left(1 + \frac{c}{a}\right) \geq 2 \left(1 + \frac{a+b+c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}\right)$$

**76 (Poland 1998)** ( $a + b + c + d + e + f = 1$ ,  $ace + bdf \geq \frac{1}{108}$ ,  $a, b, c, d, e, f > 0$ )

$$abc + bcd + cde + def + efa + fab \leq \frac{1}{36}$$

**77 (Korea 1998)** ( $x + y + z = xyz$ ,  $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+y^2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+z^2}} \leq \frac{3}{2}$$

**78 (Hong Kong 1998)** ( $a, b, c \geq 1$ )

$$\sqrt{a-1} + \sqrt{b-1} + \sqrt{c-1} \leq \sqrt{c(ab+1)}$$

**79 (IMO Short List 1998)** ( $xyz = 1$ ,  $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} + \frac{y^3}{(1+z)(1+x)} + \frac{z^3}{(1+x)(1+y)} \geq \frac{3}{4}$$

**80 (Belarus 1997)** ( $a, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{a+y}{a+x}x + \frac{a+z}{a+x}y + \frac{a+x}{a+y}z \geq x + y + z \geq \frac{a+z}{a+x}x + \frac{a+x}{a+y}y + \frac{a+y}{a+z}z$$

**81 (Ireland 1997)** ( $a + b + c \geq abc$ ,  $a, b, c \geq 0$ )

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq abc$$

**82 (Iran 1997)** ( $x_1x_2x_3x_4 = 1$ ,  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 > 0$ )

$$x_1^3 + x_2^3 + x_3^3 + x_4^3 \geq \max \left( x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4, \frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2} + \frac{1}{x_3} + \frac{1}{x_4} \right)$$

**83 (Hong Kong 1997)** ( $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{3 + \sqrt{3}}{9} \geq \frac{xyz(x+y+z + \sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2})}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)(xy+yz+zx)}$$

**84 (Belarus 1997)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{c} + \frac{c}{a} \geq \frac{a+b}{c+a} + \frac{b+c}{a+b} + \frac{c+a}{b+c}$$

**85 (Bulgaria 1997)** ( $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{1+a+b} + \frac{1}{1+b+c} + \frac{1}{1+c+a} \leq \frac{1}{2+a} + \frac{1}{2+b} + \frac{1}{2+c}$$

**86 (Romania 1997)** ( $xyz = 1, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x^9 + y^9}{x^6 + x^3y^3 + y^6} + \frac{y^9 + z^9}{y^6 + y^3z^3 + z^6} + \frac{z^9 + x^9}{z^6 + z^3x^3 + x^6} \geq 2$$

**87 (Romania 1997)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2}{a^2 + 2bc} + \frac{b^2}{b^2 + 2ca} + \frac{c^2}{c^2 + 2ab} \geq 1 \geq \frac{bc}{a^2 + 2bc} + \frac{ca}{b^2 + 2ca} + \frac{ab}{c^2 + 2ab}$$

**88 (USA 1997)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{a^3 + b^3 + abc} + \frac{1}{b^3 + c^3 + abc} + \frac{1}{c^3 + a^3 + abc} \leq \frac{1}{abc}.$$

**89 (Japan 1997)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{(b+c-a)^2}{(b+c)^2 + a^2} + \frac{(c+a-b)^2}{(c+a)^2 + b^2} + \frac{(a+b-c)^2}{(a+b)^2 + c^2} \geq \frac{3}{5}$$

**90 (Estonia 1997)** ( $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$x^2 + y^2 + 1 > x\sqrt{y^2 + 1} + y\sqrt{x^2 + 1}$$

**91 (APMC 1996)** ( $x + y + z + t = 0, x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 = 1, x, y, z, t \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$-1 \leq xy + yz + zt + tx \leq 0$$

**92 (Spain 1996)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca \geq 3(a-b)(b-c)$$



**93 (IMO Short List 1996)** ( $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{ab}{a^5 + b^5 + ab} + \frac{bc}{b^5 + c^5 + bc} + \frac{ca}{c^5 + a^5 + ca} \leq 1$$

**94 (Poland 1996)** ( $a + b + c = 1, a, b, c \geq -\frac{3}{4}$ )

$$\frac{a}{a^2 + 1} + \frac{b}{b^2 + 1} + \frac{c}{c^2 + 1} \leq \frac{9}{10}$$

**95 (Hungary 1996)** ( $a + b = 1, a, b > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2}{a + 1} + \frac{b^2}{b + 1} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

**96 (Vietnam 1996)** ( $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$(a + b)^4 + (b + c)^4 + (c + a)^4 \geq \frac{4}{7} (a^4 + b^4 + c^4)$$

**97 (Bearus 1996)** ( $x + y + z = \sqrt{xyz}, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$xy + yz + zx \geq 9(x + y + z)$$

**98 (Iran 1996)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$(ab + bc + ca) \left( \frac{1}{(a + b)^2} + \frac{1}{(b + c)^2} + \frac{1}{(c + a)^2} \right) \geq \frac{9}{4}$$

**99 (Vietnam 1996)** ( $2(ab + ac + ad + bc + bd + cd) + abc + bcd + cda + dab = 16, a, b, c, d \geq 0$ )

$$a + b + c + d \geq \frac{2}{3}(ab + ac + ad + bc + bd + cd)$$

## 6.2 Years 1990 ~ 1995

*Any good idea can be stated in fifty words or less.* S. M. Ulam

**100 (Baltic Way 1995)** ( $a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\frac{a+c}{a+b} + \frac{b+d}{b+c} + \frac{c+a}{c+d} + \frac{d+b}{d+a} \geq 4$$

**101 (Canda 1995)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a^a b^b c^c \geq abc^{\frac{a+b+c}{3}}$$

**102 (IMO 1995, Nazar Agakhanov)** ( $abc = 1, a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{a^3(b+c)} + \frac{1}{b^3(c+a)} + \frac{1}{c^3(a+b)} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

**103 (Russia 1995)** ( $x, y > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{xy} \geq \frac{x}{x^4 + y^2} + \frac{y}{y^4 + x^2}$$

**104 (Macedonia 1995)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{b+c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{c+a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c}{a+b}} \geq 2$$

**105 (APMC 1995)** ( $m, n \in \mathbb{N}, x, y > 0$ )

$$(n-1)(m-1)(x^{n+m} + y^{n+m}) + (n+m-1)(x^n y^m + x^m y^n) \geq nm(x^{n+m-1}y + xy^{n+m-1})$$

**106 (Hong Kong 1994)** ( $xy + yz + zx = 1, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$x(1-y^2)(1-z^2) + y(1-z^2)(1-x^2) + z(1-x^2)(1-y^2) \leq \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{9}$$

**107 (IMO Short List 1993)** ( $a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b+2c+3d} + \frac{b}{c+2d+3a} + \frac{c}{d+2a+3b} + \frac{d}{a+2b+3c} \geq \frac{2}{3}$$

**108 (APMC 1993)** ( $a, b \geq 0$ )

$$\left( \frac{\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b}}{2} \right)^2 \leq \frac{a + \sqrt[3]{a^2b} + \sqrt[3]{ab^2} + b}{4} \leq \frac{a + \sqrt{ab} + b}{3} \leq \sqrt{\left( \frac{\sqrt[3]{a^2} + \sqrt[3]{b^2}}{2} \right)^3}$$

**109 (Poland 1993)** ( $x, y, u, v > 0$ )

$$\frac{xy + xv + uy + uv}{x + y + u + v} \geq \frac{xy}{x + y} + \frac{uv}{u + v}$$

**110 (IMO Short List 1993)** ( $a + b + c + d = 1, a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$abc + bcd + cda + dab \leq \frac{1}{27} + \frac{176}{27}abcd$$

**111 (Italy 1993)** ( $0 \leq a, b, c \leq 1$ )

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \leq a^2b + b^2c + c^2a + 1$$

**112 (Poland 1992)** ( $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$(a + b - c)^2(b + c - a)^2(c + a - b)^2 \geq (a^2 + b^2 - c^2)(b^2 + c^2 - a^2)(c^2 + a^2 - b^2)$$

**113 (Vietnam 1991)** ( $x \geq y \geq z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x^2y}{z} + \frac{y^2z}{x} + \frac{z^2x}{y} \geq x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

**114 (Poland 1991)** ( $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 2, x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$x + y + z \leq 2 + xyz$$

**115 (Mongolia 1991)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$|a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - abc| \leq 2\sqrt{2}$$

**116 (IMO Short List 1990)** ( $ab + bc + cd + da = 1, a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^3}{b + c + d} + \frac{b^3}{c + d + a} + \frac{c^3}{d + a + b} + \frac{d^3}{a + b + c} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

### 6.3 Supplementary Problems

**117 (Lithuania 1987)** ( $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x^3}{x^2 + xy + y^2} + \frac{y^3}{y^2 + yz + z^2} + \frac{z^3}{z^2 + zx + x^2} \geq \frac{x + y + z}{3}$$

**118 (Yugoslavia 1987)** ( $a, b > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{2}(a+b)^2 + \frac{1}{4}(a+b) \geq a\sqrt{b} + b\sqrt{a}$$

**119 (Yugoslavia 1984)** ( $a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+d} + \frac{c}{d+a} + \frac{d}{a+b} \geq 2$$

**120 (IMO 1984)** ( $x + y + z = 1, x, y, z \geq 0$ )

$$0 \leq xy + yz + zx - 2xyz \leq \frac{7}{27}$$

**121 (USA 1980)** ( $a, b, c \in [0, 1]$ )

$$\frac{a}{b+c+1} + \frac{b}{c+a+1} + \frac{c}{a+b+1} + (1-a)(1-b)(1-c) \leq 1.$$

**122 (USA 1979)** ( $x + y + z = 1, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 6xyz \geq \frac{1}{4}.$$

**123 (IMO 1974)** ( $a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$1 < \frac{a}{a+b+d} + \frac{b}{b+c+a} + \frac{c}{b+c+d} + \frac{d}{a+c+d} < 2$$

**124 (IMO 1968)** ( $x_1, x_2 > 0, y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}, x_1 y_1 > z_1^2, x_2 y_2 > z_2^2$ )

$$\frac{1}{x_1 y_1 - z_1^2} + \frac{1}{x_2 y_2 - z_2^2} \geq \frac{8}{(x_1 + x_2)(y_1 + y_2) - (z_1 + z_2)^2}$$

**125 (Nesbitt's inequality)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b+c} + \frac{b}{c+a} + \frac{c}{a+b} \geq \frac{3}{2}$$

**126 (Polya's inequality)** ( $a \neq b, a, b > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{3} \left( 2\sqrt{ab} + \frac{a+b}{2} \right) \geq \frac{\ln b - \ln a}{b-a}$$

**127 (Klamkin's inequality)** ( $-1 < x, y, z < 1$ )

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)(1-y)(1-z)} + \frac{1}{(1+x)(1+y)(1+z)} \geq 2$$

**128 (Carlson's inequality)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{(a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}{8}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{ab+bc+ca}{3}}$$

**129 ([ONI], Vasile Cirtoaje)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\left(a + \frac{1}{b} - 1\right) \left(b + \frac{1}{c} - 1\right) + \left(b + \frac{1}{c} - 1\right) \left(c + \frac{1}{a} - 1\right) + \left(c + \frac{1}{a} - 1\right) \left(a + \frac{1}{b} - 1\right) \geq 3$$

**130 ([ONI], Vasile Cirtoaje)** ( $a, b, c, d > 0$ )

$$\frac{a-b}{b+c} + \frac{b-c}{c+d} + \frac{c-d}{d+a} + \frac{d-a}{a+b} \geq 0$$

**131** (Elemente der Mathematik, Problem 1207, Šefket Arslanagić)  $(x, y, z > 0)$

$$\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} \geq \frac{x+y+z}{\sqrt[3]{xyz}}$$

**132** ( $\sqrt{WURZEL}$ , Walther Janous)  $(x+y+z=1, x, y, z > 0)$

$$(1+x)(1+y)(1+z) \geq (1-x^2)^2 + (1-y^2)^2 + (1-z^2)^2$$

**133** ( $\sqrt{WURZEL}$ , Heinz-Jürgen Seiffert)  $(xy > 0, x, y \in \mathbb{R})$

$$\frac{2xy}{x+y} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2+y^2}{2}} \geq \sqrt{xy} + \frac{x+y}{2}$$

**134** ( $\sqrt{WURZEL}$ , Šefket Arslanagić)  $(a, b, c > 0)$

$$\frac{a^3}{x} + \frac{b^3}{y} + \frac{c^3}{z} \geq \frac{(a+b+c)^3}{3(x+y+z)}$$

**135** ( $\sqrt{WURZEL}$ , Šefket Arslanagić)  $(abc=1, a, b, c > 0)$

$$\frac{1}{a^2(b+c)} + \frac{1}{b^2(c+a)} + \frac{1}{c^2(a+b)} \geq \frac{3}{2}.$$

**136** ( $\sqrt{WURZEL}$ , Peter Starek, Donauwörth)  $(abc=1, a, b, c > 0)$

$$\frac{1}{a^3} + \frac{1}{b^3} + \frac{1}{c^3} \geq \frac{1}{2}(a+b)(c+a)(b+c) - 1.$$

**137** ( $\sqrt{WURZEL}$ , Peter Starek, Donauwörth)  $(x+y+z=3, x^2+y^2+z^2=7, x, y, z > 0)$

$$1 + \frac{6}{xyz} \geq \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{x}{z} + \frac{y}{x} + \frac{z}{y} \right)$$

**138** ( $\sqrt{WURZEL}$ , Šefket Arslanagić) ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{b+1} + \frac{b}{c+1} + \frac{c}{a+1} \geq \frac{3(a+b+c)}{a+b+c+3}.$$

**139** ( $a, b \geq 0$ )

$$a^3(b+1) + b^3(a+1) \geq a^2(b+b^2) + b^2(a+a^2)$$

**140** (Latvia 1997) ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{a+2b} + \cdots + \frac{1}{a+nb} < \frac{n}{\sqrt{a(a+nb)}}$$

**141** ([ONI], Gabriel Dospinescu, Mircea Lascu, Marian Tetiva) ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2abc + 3 \geq (1+a)(1+b)(1+c)$$

**142** (Gazeta Matematică) ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{a^4 + a^2b^2 + b^4} + \sqrt{b^4 + b^2c^2 + c^4} + \sqrt{c^4 + c^2a^2 + a^4} \geq a\sqrt{2a^2 + bc} + b\sqrt{2b^2 + ca} + c\sqrt{2c^2 + ab}$$

**143** (C<sup>1</sup>2362, Mohammed Aassila) ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a}{1+b} + \frac{b}{1+c} + \frac{c}{1+a} \geq \frac{3}{1+abc}$$

**144** (C2580) ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \geq \frac{b+c}{a^2+bc} + \frac{c+a}{b^2+ca} + \frac{a+b}{c^2+ab}$$

**145** (C2581) ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2+bc}{b+c} + \frac{b^2+ca}{c+a} + \frac{c^2+ab}{a+b} \geq a+b+c$$

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**146 (C2532)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \geq 3 + \frac{2(a^3 + b^3 + c^3)}{abc}$$

**147 (C3032, Vasile Cirtoaje)** ( $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ ,  $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{1}{1-ab} + \frac{1}{1-bc} + \frac{1}{1-ca} \leq \frac{9}{2}$$

**148 (C2645)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{2(a^3 + b^3 + c^3)}{abc} + \frac{9(a+b+c)^2}{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)} \geq 33$$

**149** ( $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$-\frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{(x+y)(1-xy)}{(1+x^2)(1+y^2)} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

**150** ( $0 < x, y < 1$ )

$$x^y + y^x > 1$$

**151** ( $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\sqrt[3]{xyz} + \frac{|x-y| + |y-z| + |z-x|}{3} \geq \frac{x+y+z}{3}$$

**152** ( $a, b, c, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\sqrt[3]{(a+x)(b+y)(c+z)} \geq \sqrt[3]{abc} + \sqrt[3]{xyz}$$

**153** ( $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x}{x + \sqrt{(x+y)(x+z)}} + \frac{y}{y + \sqrt{(y+z)(y+x)}} + \frac{z}{z + \sqrt{(z+x)(z+y)}} \leq 1$$



**154** ( $x + y + z = 1, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x}} + \frac{y}{\sqrt{1-y}} + \frac{z}{\sqrt{1-z}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

**155** ( $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$\sqrt{a^2 + (1-b)^2} + \sqrt{b^2 + (1-c)^2} + \sqrt{c^2 + (1-a)^2} \geq \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

**156** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{a^2 - ab + b^2} + \sqrt{b^2 - bc + c^2} \geq \sqrt{a^2 + ac + c^2}$$

**157** ( $xy + yz + zx = 1, x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{x}{1+x^2} + \frac{y}{1+y^2} + \frac{z}{1+z^2} \geq \frac{2x(1-x^2)}{(1+x^2)^2} + \frac{2y(1-y^2)}{(1+y^2)^2} + \frac{2z(1-z^2)}{(1+z^2)^2}$$

**158** ( $x, y, z \geq 0$ )

$$xyz \geq (y+z-x)(z+x-y)(x+y-z)$$

**159** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{ab(a+b)} + \sqrt{bc(b+c)} + \sqrt{ca(c+a)} \geq \sqrt{4abc + (a+b)(b+c)(c+a)}$$

**160 (Darij Grinberg)** ( $x, y, z \geq 0$ )

$$\left( \sqrt{x(y+z)} + \sqrt{y(z+x)} + \sqrt{z(x+y)} \right) \cdot \sqrt{x+y+z} \geq 2\sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)(x+y)}.$$

**161 (Darij Grinberg)** ( $x, y, z > 0$ )

$$\frac{\sqrt{y+z}}{x} + \frac{\sqrt{z+x}}{y} + \frac{\sqrt{x+y}}{z} \geq \frac{4(x+y+z)}{\sqrt{(y+z)(z+x)(x+y)}}.$$

**162 (Darij Grinberg)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2 (b+c)}{(b^2+c^2)(2a+b+c)} + \frac{b^2 (c+a)}{(c^2+a^2)(2b+c+a)} + \frac{c^2 (a+b)}{(a^2+b^2)(2c+a+b)} > \frac{2}{3}.$$

**163 (Darij Grinberg)** ( $a, b, c > 0$ )

$$\frac{a^2}{2a^2 + (b+c)^2} + \frac{b^2}{2b^2 + (c+a)^2} + \frac{c^2}{2c^2 + (a+b)^2} < \frac{2}{3}.$$

**164 (Vasile Cirtoaje)** ( $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2)^2 \geq 3(a^3b + b^3c + c^3a)$$